The gas production from existing fields of ONGC in the State of Andhra Pradesh, *viz.*, Rajahmundry asset, has increased by 0.57 MMSCMD. However, due to natural decline of production from wells of other existing fields, there has been no incremental addition. The gas from G-1/GS-15 project of ONGC is likely to be available from mid 2008.

With recent discoveries of gas made in the KG basin offshore fields, it is expected that the overall gas availability in East Coast would increase. This is projected to reach around 130 to 140 MMSCMD by 2011-12.

Fall in price of crude in the international market

843. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of oil in the international market has been dipping during the past few months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this trend will impact on the domestic prices of petroleum products;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The price of crude oil in the international market have reduced during the past few months. The Indian Basket crude price touched high of $75.20 per barrel on 8th August, 2006 and the lowest price for the year 2006-07 was $49.85 per barrel on 17th January, 2007. The average prices of Indian Basket of Crude Oil from Apr.' 06 to Feb.' 07 (upto 22/2/07) is tabulated below:

	$ Per Barrel
April 06	67.15
May 06	67.29
June 06	66.80
July 06	71.36

Aug. 06	70.84
Sept. 06	61.04
Oct. 06	57.27
Nov. 06	57.80
Dec. 06	60.35
Jan. 06	52.53
Feb. 07	55.88
Average from Apr. 06 to Feb. 07 (upto 22/2/07)	62.74

(The composition of Indian Basket of crude represents average of Oman and Dubai for Sour Grades and Brent (Dated) for Sweet Grade in the ratio of 59.8:40.20)

(c) to (e) On the basis of decline in international prices, the prices of petrol and diesel were reduced on 30.11.2006. It was again reduced on 16.2.2007. The reduction was Rs. 2/- per litre and Re. 1/- per litre for petrol and diesel respectively one each occasion (Delhi Price). It may be noted that the prices of domestic LPG were last revised on 5/11/04. However, the basic prices of PDS Kerosene have not been changed since 1/4/02 despite increase in international prices of both the products.

Number of tourists visiting India

844. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of tourists visited the country during the last one year;

(b) whether it is an increase from the last one year; and

(c) the total income received from tourism in the last year?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) The estimated number of foreign tourist arrivals to India during 2006 is 4.43 million.

(b) Yes, Sir.